

Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced the 2011 Congressional Art Competition, “An Artistic Discovery,” to give high school students in California’s 20th Congressional District an opportunity to showcase their artistic talents.

High school students living in the 20th Congressional District are encouraged to enter the competition for a chance to have their piece exhibited en route to the United States Capitol Building for an entire year.

“The annual Congressional Art Competition is a wonderful way to showcase works of art from high school students across the nation,” said Costa. **“I look forward to seeing the great artistic talent of the San Joaquin Valley’s high school students.”**

Guidelines for the competition are as follows:

1. Participants must be high school students residing in the 20th District
2. Artwork must be no larger than 28” by 28”; framed (framing not required) and two-dimensional
3. Eligible forms of artwork are paintings, prints, drawings, collages, computer art, mixed media and photography
4. A release form certifying the originality of the art piece must be signed by teacher and student
5. Artwork cannot weigh more than 15 lbs
6. Entries must be submitted by 5:00pm on April 8, 2011 to either the Fresno or Bakersfield District Office

Since 1982, the Congressional Art Competition has honored the creative talents of thousands of high school students across the nation. Local competitions are voluntarily hosted by Members of Congress in their home districts. In June, the winning piece is sent to Washington, and winners are invited to the Capitol for a ribbon-cutting ceremony and Congressional reception. The national competition receives over 500 entries every year.

For further information, please visit <http://www.costa.house.gov> or contact Angie Vega in Congressman Costa’s Fresno District Office at (559) 495-1620.